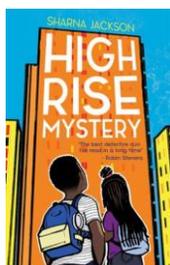


YOUNG ADULT READERS



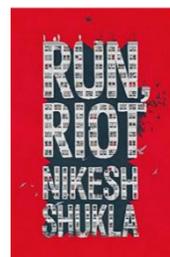
Join detective duo Nik & Norva as they track down a killer in their high rise building. It's a sweltering London summer and there's a killer on the loose.



A young romance between Bailey and Indigo. An award winning tale of belonging.



Mico finds himself in the Calais refugee camp after escaping home. Here, he becomes trapped in desperate situation and attempts to escape.



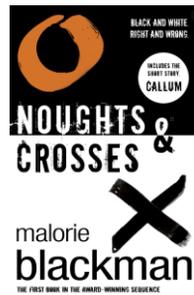
Two teens film police beating an unarmed youth from their housing estate and find themselves on the run. A thrilling YA book.



An anthology of stories and poetry from BAME writers on the theme of change is a long-overdue addition to the YA scene. Mature themes.



A bold, unflinching story told in verse about standing up for yourself. An excellent read and great for reluctant readers.



The incredible novel that every young adult and adult should read.

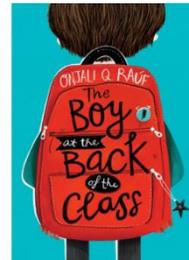
Recommended by Niko Schmidt-Chiara (Year 9)



The incredible novel that every young adult and adult should read.



Lemar is the second shortest kid in school and his friends don't let him forget it. A notorious gang show interest in him and his life becomes chaos.

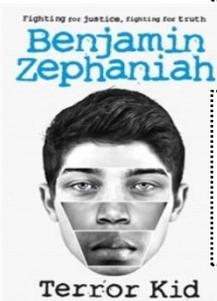


Amazing story about a young Syrian refugee named Ahmet who finds himself in the UK without his family.

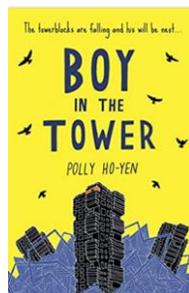
Recommended by Oscar J and Ryan S (Year 7)



It's 1899 and Samkad wants to be a warrior like his father. Based on true historical events, this amazing novel looks at friendship and war.



Rico is a kid who knows trouble when he sees it. As a cyber hacktivist, he is passionate about injustices.



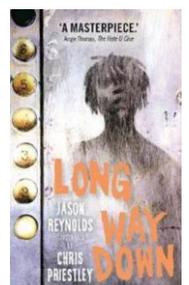
A science-fiction tale set in an urban, multi-cultural environment. Moving and thought-provoking story.

Recommended by Joshua V (Year 7)



Written in verse, this story follows 12 year old Nick as he juggles the demands of football, school and his family.

Recommended by Erik U (Year 7) and Arjun (Year 9)

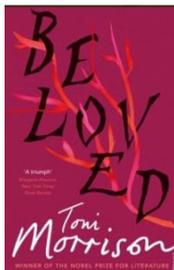


Another popular verse novel, 15 year old Shawn loses his brother. His journey for revenge is action-packed. Suitable for Year 9s due strong themes.

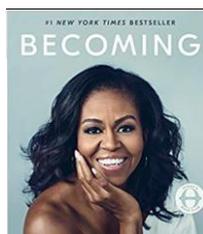


Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this is a powerful and gripping YA novel about one girl's struggle for justice.

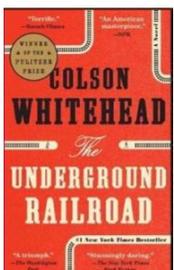
MATURE AND ADULT READERS



Toni Morrison's *Beloved* is a spellbinding and dazzlingly innovative portrait of a woman haunted by the past.



Michelle Obama's best-selling novel on life before and after being First Lady. An incredibly inspirational story of challenging expectations and breaking stereotypes.



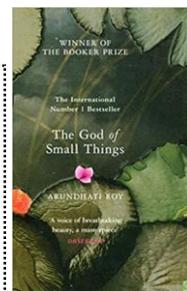
Prize-winning and best-selling, *Underground Railroad* chronicles a young slave's adventures as she makes a desperate bid for freedom in the antebellum South.



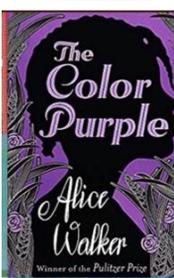
A collection of essays that are poignant, challenging, angry, humorous, heart-breaking, polemic, weary and - most importantly - real.



Joint-winner of The Booker Prize last year, 'Girl, Woman, Other' follows a cast of twelve characters on their personal journeys through this country and the last hundred years.



Set in 1969 in the state of Kerala, on the southernmost tip of India, Roy's modern classic follows a family saga, forbidden love story and a political drama.



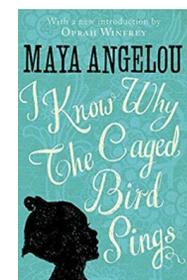
Set in the deep American South between the wars, this is the classic tale of Celie, a young black girl born into poverty and segregation.



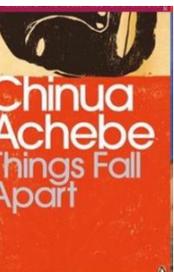
A must-read if you have read or know *Jane Eyre*. Rhys writes from the perspective of Grace Poole. A shocking and beautiful post-colonial novel.



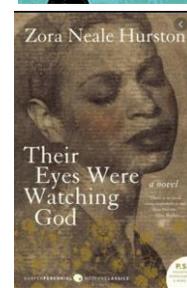
Reni Eddo-Lodge offers a timely and essential new framework for how to see, acknowledge and counter racism. This is currently sold out in many places but you can listen to the Audible or e-book.



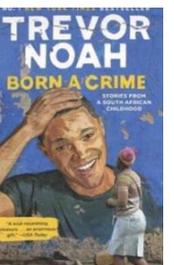
Maya Angelou's debut autobiography. A wonderful insight into her childhood; growing up in segregated Arkansas. Both funny and harrowing.



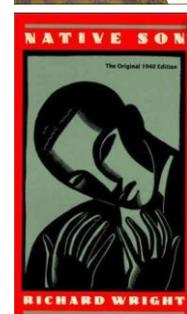
One of the first works of fiction to present African village life from an African perspective. A masterpiece



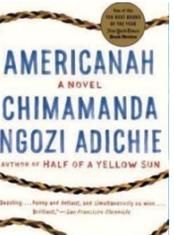
Set in the 1930s in the height of the Jim Crow era, this novel tells the story of how the main protagonist Janie overcomes obstacles and stereotypes to become the person she yearned to be.



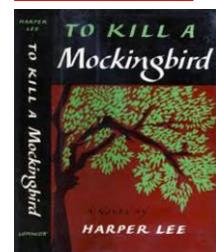
Trevor Noah's autobiography on life growing up in South Africa.



An incredibly harrowing insight into poverty and life as a black teenage boy in urban Chicago in 1940s. A novel that will stay with you forever.



Award-winning novel and bestseller, *Americanah* tells the story of a young Nigerian woman, Ifemelu, who immigrates to the United States to attend university.



The must-read classic: Harper Lee centres on Atticus Finch's attempts to prove the innocence of Tom Robinson, a black man who has been wrongly accused of raping a white woman in 1930s Alabama.

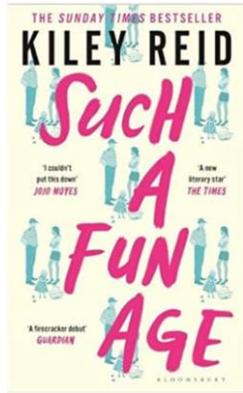


Saini Angela, an award-winning science journalist. *Inferior* explores the effect of sexism on science and how sexism influences social beliefs.

RECOMMENDED READING FROM STAFF & PUPILS

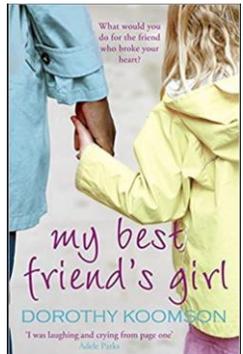
Miss Webb recommends:

Such a Fun Age is a sharp, wry social satire that tackles the white saviour complex, the fetishisation of black culture, and the numerous 'grey areas' that make up modern day race relations. It follows the story of a young black woman who is wrongly accused of kidnapping the white child she is babysitting, and the child's misguided but well-intentioned mother who tries to capitalise on the incident to prove her 'wokeness.' The book manages to be hilarious and hugely entertaining, while forcing the reader to consider tough questions about race, class and identity. If you are trying to understand more about the uncomfortable dynamics of race and privilege, you should read this book.



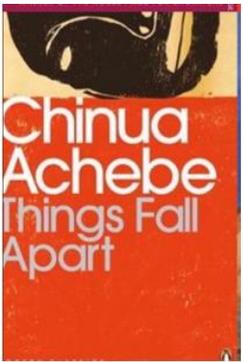
Mrs Atkinson recommends:

A story of a black woman who ends up taking care of her best friend's white daughter after she dies. I loved it because race issues are so subtly woven through the plot, and written from a black person's point of view which I found really refreshing and informative!



Mr Warner recommends:

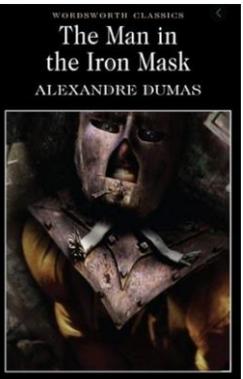
This account of how pre-colonial Nigerian life collided with the first European attempts to dominate the area is a fantastic read. The way Achebe gets across the Igbo sense of language and identity along with the sheer complexity of the encounter between the two cultures is remarkable. This is a short, but very powerful novel.



Mr Leverage recommends:

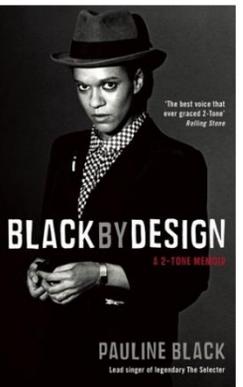
It's often overlooked that Dumas was black: his mother was in fact a Haitian slave. It was Chirac who many years after Dumas' death had his ashes disinterred and moved to the Pantheon in Paris to lie alongside the most celebrated of France's men of letters. At the reburial service Chirac spoke out against racism.

My favourite Dumas quote translates as: "Mastery of language affords one remarkable opportunities."



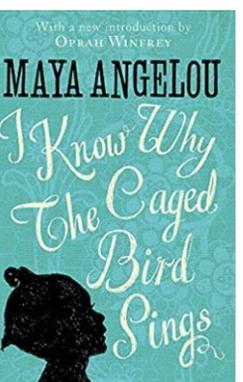
Ms Easthope recommends:

The Autobiography of the lead Singer of Two-Tone Ska Band The Selecter who is of Anglo-Jewish/Nigerian parentage and was adopted by a white, working class family in Essex in the 50s. I read it initially because The Selecter are one of my favourite bands but it talks frankly about her own experience of racism.

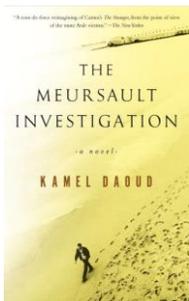


Mrs Skinner recommends:

What I found most incredible, was her resilience and strength of character as she was growing up, because she was subject to the most awful abuse and some really shocking racist incidents as a young child. The one that really stood out to me, was when her Grandmother took her to a white dentist because she was in so much pain with her teeth, but he refused to treat her because she was black. It sounds like quite a sad book, however, she writes about many of her childhood memories with real joy and she goes on to achieve so much in her later life.

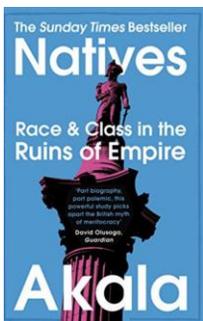


RECOMMENDED READING FROM STAFF & PUPILS



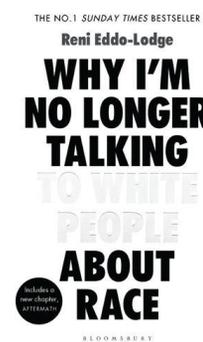
Ms Bainbridge recommends:

Lots of people know the famous Camus novel about a man who shoots an 'Arab' in Algeria. Daoud has written a clever reply which dissects colonialism from the view point of the victim's brother- he also finally dignifies the victim with a name, he is Musa.



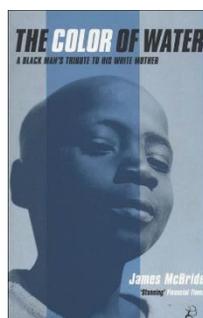
Miss Nash recommends:

"I read it a few months ago and would definitely recommend it for a look at racial inequality from a British perspective. Really eye-opening."



Mrs Owen recommends:

This book has affected me profoundly. Initially, the title made me feel that perhaps I was not the intended audience for this non-fiction text. However, Eddo-Lodge's preface immediately engages with this irony: this award-winning bestseller is a handbook for everybody to understand the importance of discussing race and acknowledging the shocking yet very real ways in which racism is systemic within society. Eddo-Lodge's arguments are articulated in such a compelling and factual tone that it soon became apparent that I had a responsibility to not only read this book but to engage fully with its arguments and to alter the ways in which I talk about race. Not only do I strongly recommend that *everybody* reads this book; I believe that we all have a responsibility to.



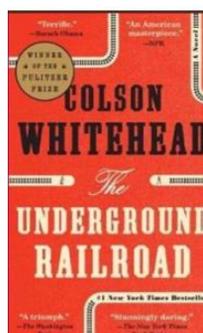
Mr Lawrence recommends:

I first read James McBride's remarkable book when it was first published in late 1998. I was struck by its moving account of the author's childhood and that of his mother who crossed a cultural and racial divide. Ruth, his mother, emerges as a woman of incredible resilience, resourcefulness and compassion who rose above rejection to embrace and adapt.



Miss Murray recommends:

This book has stayed with me since studying it at University. Rhys gives the narrative voice to Bertha Mason, Bronte's 'mad-woman in the attic', creating both a post-colonial response and prequel to Jane Eyre. Rhys explores the devastating effects of colonialism and patriarchy in the West Indies. If you have read Jane Eyre, or simply know the story, you must read this.



Ms Keaveney recommends:

A novel about slavery with Cora, a young female slave living on a cotton plantation in Georgia in the 19th Century, at its centre. The novel follows Cora's plight as she makes a desperate bid for freedom by travelling from Georgia to South Carolina to North Carolina to Tennessee to finally to Indiana. Whitehead uses the metaphor of the underground railroad, the secret network of abolitionists that helped enslaved African-Americans escape from the south to the free states. He gives the railroad literally an engine, carriages and tracks, making it seem real and believable. Cora is constantly pursued by Ridgeway, a slave catcher, along with other bounty hunters, informers and lynch mobs. Although shocking and violent in parts, it also highlights the goodness of some of the dedicated "railroad" workers, both black and white, willing to risk their lives to save hers. It was a gripping read and found it hard to put down. I would highly recommend it.

FURTHER EDUCATION & CELEBRATION: TV & FILM

Netflix Documentaries & Series

When They See Us: Five teens from Harlem become trapped in a nightmare when they're falsely accused of a brutal attack in Central Park. Based on a true story. (15+)

Oprah Winfrey Presents: When They See Us Now: Oprah Winfrey talks with the exonerated men once known as the Central Park Five, plus the cast and producers who tell their story in "When They See Us". **12+**

13th

Slavery, Jim Crow, Criminalization. Links in a chain of racial inequality, forged by political and economic motives. (12+)

American Son: Time passes and tension mounts in a Florida police station as an estranged interracial couple awaits news of their missing teenage son. (15)

The Trials of Gabriel Fernandez: A boy's brutal murder and the public trials of his guardians and social workers prompt questions about the system's protection of vulnerable children. (18)

Dear White People: Students of color navigate the daily slights and slippery politics of life at an Ivy League college that's not nearly as "post-racial" as it thinks.

LA 92: Previously unseen footage is shaped into a fresh retelling of the 1992 Rodney King trial and the verdict that sparked civil unrest.

Strong Island: The forces of family, grief and racial injustice coverage in this Oscar-nominated documentary exploring the murder of filmmaker Yance Ford's brother.

Teach Us All: It's been decades since Brown V. Board of Education yet American schools remain largely segregated. A documentary following leaders trying to change that.

Becoming: Join former first lady Michelle Obama in an intimate documentary looking at her life, hopes and connection with others.

Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise: Documentary that follows the incredible life of poet, writer and civil rights activist, Maya Angelou

Netflix Films

12 Years A Slave: A freeborn black man is abducted from New York and sold into slavery in this historical drama based on Solomon Northup's autobiography. (15+)

American Son: Time passes and tension mounts in a Florida police station as an estranged interracial couple awaits news of their missing teenage son. (15)

What happened Miss Simone?: Nina Simone achieved fame, fortune, and legend status. But she wanted more: equality.

Mudbound: Two Mississippi families confront the brutal realities of prejudice, farming and friendship.

Moonlight: Acclaimed coming of age drama, a young man grows up poor, black and gay in Miami tries to find his place in the world.

BBC IPlayer

OJ: Made In America: Five part feature length documentary on the rise and fall of OJ Simpson and how race played a central role in his trial.

Youtube

- The Murder of Stephen Lawrence Documentary
- The Black Power Mixtape

Further Book Suggestions for Younger Children: www.booksfordiversity.com